

the beta stereochemical configuration, and may be, for example, α - or β -hydroxy or α - or β -acyloxy. For example, when R_9 is acyloxy, it may be an ester ($R_{9a}C(O)O-$), a carbamate ($R_{9a}R_{9b}NC(O)O-$), a carbonate ($R_{9a}OC(O)O-$), or a thiocarbonate ($R_{9a}SC(O)O-$) wherein R_{9a} and R_{9b} are independently hydrogen, hydrocarbyl, substituted hydrocarbyl or heterocyclo. If R_9 is an ester ($R_{9a}C(O)O-$), R_{9a} is or unsubstituted alkyl, or unsubstituted alkenyl, or unsubstituted aryl or or unsubstituted heteroaromatic. Still more preferably, R_9 is an ester ($R_{9a}C(O)O-$), wherein R_{9a} is substituted or unsubstituted phenyl, or unsubstituted furyl, or unsubstituted thienyl, or or unsubstituted pyridyl. In one embodiment R_9 is ($R_{9a}C(O)O-$) wherein R_{9a} is methyl, ethyl, propyl (straight, branched or cyclic), butyl (straight, branched or cyclic), pentyl, (straight, branched or cyclic), or hexyl (straight, branched or cyclic). In another embodiment R_9 is ($R_{9a}C(O)O-$) wherein R_{9a} is substituted methyl, substituted ethyl, substituted propyl (straight, branched or cyclic), substituted butyl (straight, branched or cyclic), substituted pentyl, (straight, branched or cyclic), or substituted hexyl (straight, branched or cyclic) wherein the substituent(s) is/are selected from the group consisting of heterocyclo, alkoxy, alkenoxy, alkynoxy, aryloxy, hydroxy, protected hydroxy, keto, acyloxy, nitro, amino, amido, thiol, ketal, acetal, ester and ether moieties, but not phosphorous containing moieties. --.
